

Special Needs Housing

FUNCTION

The mission of Special Needs Housing (SNH) is to provide oversight and leadership to the County's efforts to develop new and innovative housing models to serve special needs and homeless populations and maintain housing stability for vulnerable households. SNH is responsible for collaborating with public and private agencies to develop and implement strategies, to address the County's plan to remedy and prevent homelessness, and increase the development of supportive, accessible, and affordable housing for special needs populations. Special needs populations include homeless individuals and families, persons with mental health and substance abuse issues, individuals with developmental disabilities, transitioning youth, and seniors with disabilities.

PROGRAM CONTACTS

Contact Nadim Khan of the HHS - Special Needs Housing at 240.777.1179 or Trudy-Ann Hunter of the Office of Management and Budget at 240.777.2778 for more information regarding this service area's operating budget.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

Rental & Energy Assistance Program

The Maryland Energy Assistance Program (MEAP) and Electric Universal Services Program (EUSP) provide financial assistance for eligible low-income households to pay home heating and energy costs.

The Rental Assistance and Handicapped Rental Assistance Programs provide subsidies to low-income renters, handicapped persons, and families with dependent children.

The Supportive Housing Rental Assistance Program (SHRAP) provides housing and service coordination to special need families/individuals and also provides funding for the Partnership for Permanent Housing (PPH) program.

The Rental and Energy Assistance Program was formerly in Behavioral Health and Crisis Services. SHRAP and PPH were formerly in the Office of the Director (Administration and Support).

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY07	Actual FY08	Estimated FY09	Approved FY10	Projected FY11
Average number of households receiving a rental subsidy each month. ¹	1,715	1,668	1,768	1767	1767

¹ The average number of households funded directly out of the department's budget is 1,618. The number of subsidies reflected in FY09 and beyond includes the 150 additional subsidies funded out of the Housing Initiative Fund.

FY10 Approved Changes	Expenditures	WYs
FY09 Approved	7,994,390	12.5
Restore: Rental Assistance Funding	600,000	0.0
Decrease Cost: Operating Expenses in the Handicapped Rental Assistance Program	-60,000	0.0
Decrease Cost: Rental Assistance Program (RAP) and offset with Housing Initiative Fund (HIF)	-252,920	0.0
Decrease Cost: Transfer Rental Assistance Funding to HIF	-3,632,080	0.0
Miscellaneous adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	636,820	0.0
FY10 Approved	5,286,210	12.5

Notes: Miscellaneous adjustments includes additional appropriation needed due to HB669 calculation error when transferred from the General Fund to the Grant Fund in FY09.

Shelter Services

Shelter Services coordinates and provides shelter services to homeless families and single adults on a seasonal and emergency basis with the goal of placing individuals and families in stable, permanent housing as rapidly as possible. Shelter Services, include community outreach, emergency shelter placement, a comprehensive needs assessments, and case management.

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY07	Actual FY08	Estimated FY09	Approved FY10	Projected FY11
Average length of stay by homeless families in emergency shelter ¹	120	93	85	75	75

¹ Under the Housing First Initiative, the goal is to have families in a shelter for a maximum of 30 days. Due to the large number of families with housing needs, the department does not believe that goal is attainable in the next few years.

FY10 Approved Changes	Expenditures	WYs
FY09 Approved	5,929,980	2.8
Increase Cost: Gude Men's Shelter - Daytime Hours	55,560	0.0
Increase Cost: SuperNofa - Home First III (Samaritan)	33,860	0.0
Add: Bethesda Cares, Inc. - Program to provide eviction/utility shut off prevention	15,000	0.0
Increase Cost: SuperNofa - Rapid Rehousing	10,290	0.0
Decrease Cost: Mental Health Outreach Services to the Homeless	-111,860	0.0
Miscellaneous adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	63,860	0.0
FY10 Approved	5,996,690	2.8

Supportive Housing Services

Supportive Housing Services provides transitional housing for families with children and persons with mental disabilities. On-site case management is provided to assist persons receiving services to become self sufficient.

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY07	Actual FY08	Estimated FY09	Approved FY10	Projected FY11
Percentage of households remaining housed at least 12 months after placement in permanent supportive housing	NA	94	94	94	94

FY10 Approved Changes	Expenditures	WYs
FY09 Approved	1,811,290	10.2
Eliminate: Transitional Housing (McKinney III)	-51,720	-0.5
Miscellaneous adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	-11,740	-0.1
FY10 Approved	1,747,830	9.6

Housing Stabilization Services

Housing Stabilization Services provides intake and assessment for County households who are experiencing a housing-related emergency. The program's focus is on crisis intervention and prevention. State and County grants are provided to prevent evictions and utility cut offs. Referrals are made for Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA). Case management services are provided to help at risk households develop and implement plans to prevent future housing crisis.

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY07	Actual FY08	Estimated FY09	Approved FY10	Projected FY11
Percentage of households that received emergency financial assistance that sought additional assistance within 12 months ¹	NA	NA	24	24	24

¹ Under construction. Baseline numerator data to be established FY09.

FY10 Approved Changes	Expenditures	WYs
FY09 Approved	4,893,310	30.2
Decrease Cost: Abolish a vacant Manager II Position in Housing Stabilization Services	-130,280	-1.0
Miscellaneous adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	-50,330	0.3
FY10 Approved	4,712,700	29.5

Notes: Miscellaneous adjustments includes 0.4 workyear for the Emergency Safety Net Program.

Service Area Administration

This program provides leadership and direction for the administration of Special Needs Housing.

FY10 Approved Changes	Expenditures	WYs
FY09 Approved	294,820	1.8
Miscellaneous adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	-47,440	0.0
FY10 Approved	247,380	1.8